

**BURR OAK WOODS CONSERVATION NATURE CENTER** is located one mile north of I-70 on Hwy 7, one mile west on Park Road. The Nature Center is open Monday through Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. **Area Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** No pets allowed. There is no admission fee. **Phone: 816-228-3766 TDD: 816-655-6268**

*Friday,  
October 14th  
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.*

*Friday Night  
Live!*



**OWLS!**



*The Nutshell*  
Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center  
Missouri Department of Conservation  
1401 NW Park Road - Blue Springs, Mo 64015

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# The Nutshell

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center newsletter

Volume 19 September 2005 Number 09



## Sharing Your Outdoor Joys With Some One New

In celebration of the National Hunting and Fishing Month, we challenge you to invite someone new (don't forget to ask your spouse) to discover the joys of hunting and fishing. Of course there is more than one method of hunting wildlife; an individual can also shoot or catch wildlife with a camera rather than a firearm, bow and arrow, or line and pole.

I was introduced to fishing at a young age by my father and have enjoyed the sport of fishing for many years. I remember a few years back my husband and I were fishing at a friend's pond when I caught a nice catfish.



When I finally got it to the bank of the pond, I turned to my husband and asked if it was worth a picture. He replied that it was. Before he was able to complete his response, I had handed him my pole with the fish still on the line and was off to the truck to get the camera. I also enjoyed my first experience of deer hunting a few years after my husband and I got together. He would venture off on his annual deer hunts with the guys and that was fine, though one year I mentioned that I would enjoy trying the sport. My husband was quite surprised at my interest and ever since his annual deer hunting trips have been co-ed. I remember the first time I was able to harvest a deer - my husband and I went to a friend's farm. My husband took me to a tree stand where I would be hunting and he went to another stand a distance from my position. Within 20-30 minutes I took my first doe, my adrenalin was running so high. A few days later we went back to the farm and I was fortunate enough to harvest my first buck (a young fork) and once again it was with in the first 30 minutes of being in our stands. My husband was convinced that he was



not meant to hunt that year. We have continued to share this special time of year, especially since we are now sharing the time with our grandchildren. Within the past two years two of our grandsons have taken their first deer. They each were thrilled to receive their "My First Deer" award.



Any one can receive an award, whether it is their first fish, turkey or deer. The applications are available at any of our MDC locations or through our web site.

**My First Fish** [www.mdc.mo.gov/documents/fish/kids/first\\_fish.pdf](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/documents/fish/kids/first_fish.pdf)

**My First Turkey** [www.mdc.mo.gov/documents/hunt/first\\_turkey.pdf](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/documents/hunt/first_turkey.pdf)

**My First Deer** [www.mdc.mo.gov/documents/hunt/deer\\_deer.pdf](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/documents/hunt/deer_deer.pdf)

Just complete the application and send it to our MDC office in Jefferson City and with in a few weeks, you will receive your award, ready to be framed and displayed. This wonderful item of remembrance is free of charge to you.

So, share your love for the outdoors with someone who has never had the opportunity to experience fishing or hunting and you'll both be glad you did. You'll have memories to share for years to come.

-Joan Blackmon

*Saturday, September 24*

### Monarch Mania

The monarch butterflies are moving to their winter home in central Mexico, and we are ready to tag them! Join us as we capture, tag, and release these fantastic butterflies! We will provide the nets and tags for this afternoon of scientific fun! Beautiful butterfly crafts and butterfly gardening make this event something that the whole family will love. Please call to register. All Ages / 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

*Helping Missourians connect with nature and conserve it, too!*



# S e p t e m b e r P r o g r a m s

## PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Please call 816-228-3766 (TDD 816-655-6268) **ON OR AFTER THE FIRST OF THE MONTH** to register for the free programs listed . It is important to arrive five minutes before the program time. If you have to cancel, please call as soon as possible so someone on the waiting list can attend.

**3** *Saturday*

### ***Babes in the Woods:***

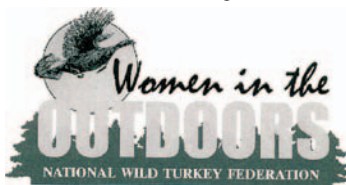
#### ***Getting Ready for Winter***

Your child is never too young to be outside and enjoy what nature has to offer. During this class we will share ideas and activities to help your young child see what animals do to get ready for the coming fall and winter. Please bring a stroller and call to register. **Infant - 2 yr / 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

**10** *Saturday*

### ***Women in the Outdoors***

*in cooperation with The Wild Turkey Federation, South Grand River Gobblers Chapter*



The kids are back in school and you are ready for a break. Did you ever wish you knew how to fish, safely shoot a gun, or canoe down one of Missouri's Ozark streams? How about weave a reed basket, take great nature photographs, or plant a butterfly garden. If this sounds interesting to you, plus lots more, this is the all day adventure just for you!

Bring a friend to make this a special day the two of you can share together. We have enthusiastic, patient instructors who are skilled at teaching beginners and a little more advanced who want to tweak their skills. This day is for everyone! You won't want to miss it! Call 816/228-3766 for a Registration Form or for more information. 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Optional Wild Game Dinner 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

#### **Registration:**

**Registering with a friend: \$ 45 each**

**Regular Registration: \$ 50**

**(Postmarked by September 1)**

**Late Registration: \$ 55**

**(Postmarked after September 1)**

**11** *Sunday*

### ***Adults Only Hiking Club:***

#### ***Weston Bend State Park***

Have you ever thought about how pollinators affect our environment? While hiking the Missouri Bluff Trail, we will learn more about this fascinating subject. Wear comfortable shoes, and bring water and snacks, if you like. Please call to register. **Adults Only 20 yr and up / 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**13** *Tuesday*

### ***Conservation Kid's Club:***

#### ***In Celebration of Kid's Club!***

Welcome to the 2005-2006 Kid's Club New Year! Join the group for an evening fun-filled scavenger hunt. Tonight will also be a preparatory night to plan the 2005 Take Your Parent Camping Night! Kid's Club members will work together to plan our annual campout. Our night will Friday, September 30thst! Let's work together to make this year's event the best ever! Registration required. You must have participated in the Kid's Club program during the 2004-2005 school year in order to attend this campout. **7 - 10 yr / 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

## ***Little Acorns:*** ***Missouri's Magical Trees***

As the weather turns cold, the trees in Missouri go thru a magnificent change. From green to red or orange or yellow, why do we only see these beautiful colors in the fall? Come learn the how's and why's as we investigate Missouri's Magical Trees.

3 - 5 yr old

#### **Wednesday the 7th**

10:00 - 11:00 a.m. or

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

#### **Friday the 9th**

10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

**14** *Wednesday*

### ***HomeSchool:***

#### ***In Celebration of***

#### ***Hunting and Fishing in Missouri***

Welcome back to a brand new year! We are going to celebrate the traditions of hunting and fishing as you will get a chance to use an air rifle, practice archery, discover some of the mysteries of animal tracks and learn how to become a better fisherperson. The youngest of our home school group will learn how to fish with cane poles! Dress for the weather. Please call to register. **3 - 5yr 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. or 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. 6 - 8 yr; 9 - 11 yr and 12 yr and up 10:00 - Noon or 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

**14** *Wednesday*

### ***O.A.K.S. Outdoors:***

#### ***Archery***

Join the staff of the Prairie Archery Range to develop your skills with a compound bow. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy after class. Please call to register. **Adults Only: 50 yr and up / 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.**

**17** *Saturday*

### ***Possum Trot Orienteering Clinic***

Are you afraid of being lost in the woods? Is using a compass a mystery to you? This clinic will teach you how to read a topographic map, use a compass, and find your bearing. After learning these new skills, you will practice a short outdoor course. If you're s hunter, or just an outdoor enthusiast, map and compass skills are a must. Bring your own compass if you have one, and dress for the weather. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Please call to register. **All ages / 9:00 a.m. - Noon**

**17** *Saturday*

### ***For Families***

#### ***with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Butterflies***

Have you every wondered what kind of butterfly was fluttering its beautiful colors through the air? We will learn the life cycle of the butterfly and identify common butterflies found in Missouri. Then we will go outside to look for the real thing. Dress for the weather. This program will be presented in sign language. Please call to register. **All Ages / 10:00 a.m. - Noon**

**17** *Saturday*

### ***Rockin' & Readin' Nature Tails***

Join "Grandma" for an all new story hour as she leads you on fantastic nature adventures! We will meet butterflies, birds, mammals, and all sorts of magnificent creatures! We will cross rivers, discover mysteries within the forest, and fly across the prairies. We are only limited by our imagination. Your children will not want to miss these stories of exploration and discovery with Grandma. **2 yr and up / 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.**

**17** *Saturday*

### ***Family Fishing***

It's time to bait the hooks and have some good ol' fashioned fun at the Burr Oak Woods' educational pond. We'll provide all the equipment and worms. You bring your child(ren) and we'll teach them the basics of fishing and then they'll try their luck. **Attendees 16 to 65 yr MUST have a valid fishing license**, available for purchase at the Nature Center. Please call to register. **Families with children 5 yr and up / 9:00 - 11:00 a.m**

**18** *Sunday*

### ***Youth Deer Hunting Workshop***

Get out of the city and step into the woods! Burr Oak Woods! This program is an opportunity for you to discover the world of the white-tail deer. Deer hunting is a tradition that has been handed down through the generations. In this two part workshop, we will learn about safety, how to handle a firearm, track deer, locate and interpret deer sign, and set up your own deer stand. This is an excellent opportunity for you to learn from some of the top experts in our state. Be sure to bring water and a sack lunch if you'd like. Dress for the weather. Please call to register. **For youngsters 11 - 15 years of age 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. Firearm Safety Handling a Firearm 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Lunch on your own 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. In the Field (signs, tracking) Deer Stand (location, setup, and safety)**

**23** *Friday*

### ***Sparkling Spiders***

Sparkling Spiders?!? What does that mean? Well, come out to Burr Oak Woods and find out! We will identify some of Missouri's common spiders and then head outside after dark to go 'spider sniffing.' Dress for the weather. Please call to register. **Families (with children 5 yr and up) / 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

**25** *Sunday*

### ***Missouri Conservation Frontiers:***

#### ***Insect Identification***

Let's pick up a sweep net and head out to the prairie in search of those 6 legged critters! We will conduct an insect study on one of the prairies to figure out exactly what kinds of little critters are living out there! Dress for the weather. Please call to register. **All Ages / 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.**

**1** *Saturday* **October**

### ***Family Fishing***

It's time to bait the hooks and have some good ol' fashioned fun at the Burr Oak Woods' educational pond. We'll provide all the equipment and worms. You bring your child(ren) and we'll teach them the basics of fishing and then they'll try their luck. **Attendees 16 to 65 yr MUST have a valid fishing license**, available for purchase at the Nature Center. Please call to register. **Families with children 5 yr and up / 9:00 - 11:00 a.m**

## ***Nature Shop News***

*Nature Shop Featured Item*



## ***September Conservation Trails***

Regular Price \$5.<sup>00</sup>

**Featured Price \$4.<sup>00</sup>**

Heritage Card Discount does not apply.

## ***Natural Happenings***

- ▶ Black and yellow garden spiders can be found building large webs around your home. Rest-at-ease, they are harm less to us and help control the insect population.
- ▶ Drivers Beware: White-tailed deer are becoming more active as breeding season gets underway. They will be in rut thru November.
- ▶ Monarch butterflies are migrating to South America for the winter.
- ▶ Glowworms (firefly larva) can be found along the banks in shallow water. They are easy to spot because they glow in the dark!
- ▶ Touch-me-not (also known as Jewelweed) seedpods explode when touched.
- ▶ White pelicans may be found at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge as they begin their fall migration.



## **SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS AT LAKE CITY RANGE**

**816-229-4448 28900 E Argo Road Grain Valley, Mo 64029**

**Website for Lake City Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center**  
**www.mdc.state.mo/areas/ranges/lakecity**

We are pleased to let people know about several of the programs offered by the Missouri Department of Conservation's Lake City Range. Be sure to call **816-229-4448** for information and to register for these programs.

### **Basic Taxidermy**

Thursday the 8th and 15th,  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

### **Basic Muzzleloading Class**

Friday the 9th and 16th,  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

### **Waterfowl Identification**

Tuesday the 13th, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

### **Ladies Firearm Safety Class-Phase II**

Saturday the 17th, 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.

### **Tree Stand Safety**

Wednesday the 21st, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

### **Archery Equipment Tuning**

Tuesday the 27th, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.



***For more information call us at 816-228-3766 or visit our web site at burroakwoods.org***